GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2104
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
AGREEMENT SIGNED BETWEEN INDIA AND U.S.A.
RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the representatives of India and U.S.A. have met a number of times during the last year;

(b) if so, the details of agreements reached between U.S.A. and India;

(c) the details of issues on which agreements have been signed;

(d) the extent to which these discussions have helped in reaching agreements on various issues;

(e) whether both the countries have agreed to continue discussion till a final solution of there issues are settled; and

(f) if so, the manner in which both the countries has been agreed in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

[a] Yes, Sir. The ongoing Indo-US dialogue on security, non-proliferation, disarmament and related issues was resumed in London on November 17-18, 1999 and was continued on January 18-19, 2000 in London. As part of this dialogue, officials from the two sides have also met to discuss issues relating to export control and counter-terrorism.

[b] & [c] During the meeting in London on January 18-19, 2000, the two sides agreed to establish a Joint Working Group on Counter-terrorism and also to work together to ensure that the perpetrators of the hijacking of Indian Airlines flight IC-814 were brought to justice, as part of their joint effort to combat international terrorism. The two sides also agreed on the need to intensify and broaden Indo-American discussions.

[d] The ongoing Indo-US dialogue has led to some progress in creating a better mutual understanding on security issues. During these talks, international terrorism and the need for co-operation between the two sides in combating international terrorism have been extensively discussed.

[e] & [f] Both sides consider this dialogue to be useful for laying the foundation of a multi-faceted, broad-based and forward looking relations between the two countries and, for this purpose, have agreed to institutionalise and continue this dialogue.